(b) It was suggested by the Government of Karnataka that the Government of India should examine the possibility of establishing an Irrigation Development Bank at the National level so as to mobilise additional resources for that irrigation sector. Alternatively it was proposed by the Government of Karnataka that if the Government of India was not in favour of such a Bank then the Government of Karnataka should be permitted to float irrigation bonds. The Central Government is examining the possibility of establishing an Irrigation Finance Cooperation failing which it is proposed to provide special plan assistance to nationally important projects for expediting their completion.

Loan for Growing Groundnut in Karnataka

6965. SHRI H.D.DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought loan from the Union Government for growing of groundnuts in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government for early sanction of the loan to Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). During 1986-87, the Karnataka Government sent a proposal for special Central assistance for speedier completion of selected irrigation projects. This included a proposal for a special line of Institutional credit for groundnut farmers. Certain suggestions were made by the Government of India but the proposal was not pursued thereafter by the State Government with the Govt. of India. However, a special line of credit was made available by NABARD for Karnataka along with other States for oilseed growers who are members of cooperatives.

Reclamation of Degraded Lands in Karnataka

6966. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted to the Union Government a proposal for reclamation of degraded lands on pilot project basis in the State for clearance; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for early clearence of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal requires to be reformulated by the State in the light of guidance given by the Government of India and has therefore been returned to the state. The question of giving clearance to the projects, therefore, does not arise.

Ban on Milk Products in Delhi

6967. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on manufacture of butter from the cream under the Milk Control Order;

(b) whether in Delhi there is a ban on cream being extracted from milk;

(c) whether the instances of violation of the Milk Control order in Delhi have come to the notice of the Government during 1991,

if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(d) when this ban is proposed to be lifted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b). No, Sir,now the ban is on conversion of milk into Milk Powder (whole and skimmed) and condensed milk only.

(c) 11 cases of violation of the Delhi (Milk & Milk Food) Control Order, 1991 have been registered in Delhi so far. These cases related to conversion of Milk into milk Food, prossessing of paneer or sweets made by use of milk of derivatives of milk for sale.

(d) The existing ban order is in force upto 31.10.91

Sale of Agriculture machineries

6968. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the number of tractors, power tillers, combine harvesters sold during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN): A statement is annexed.